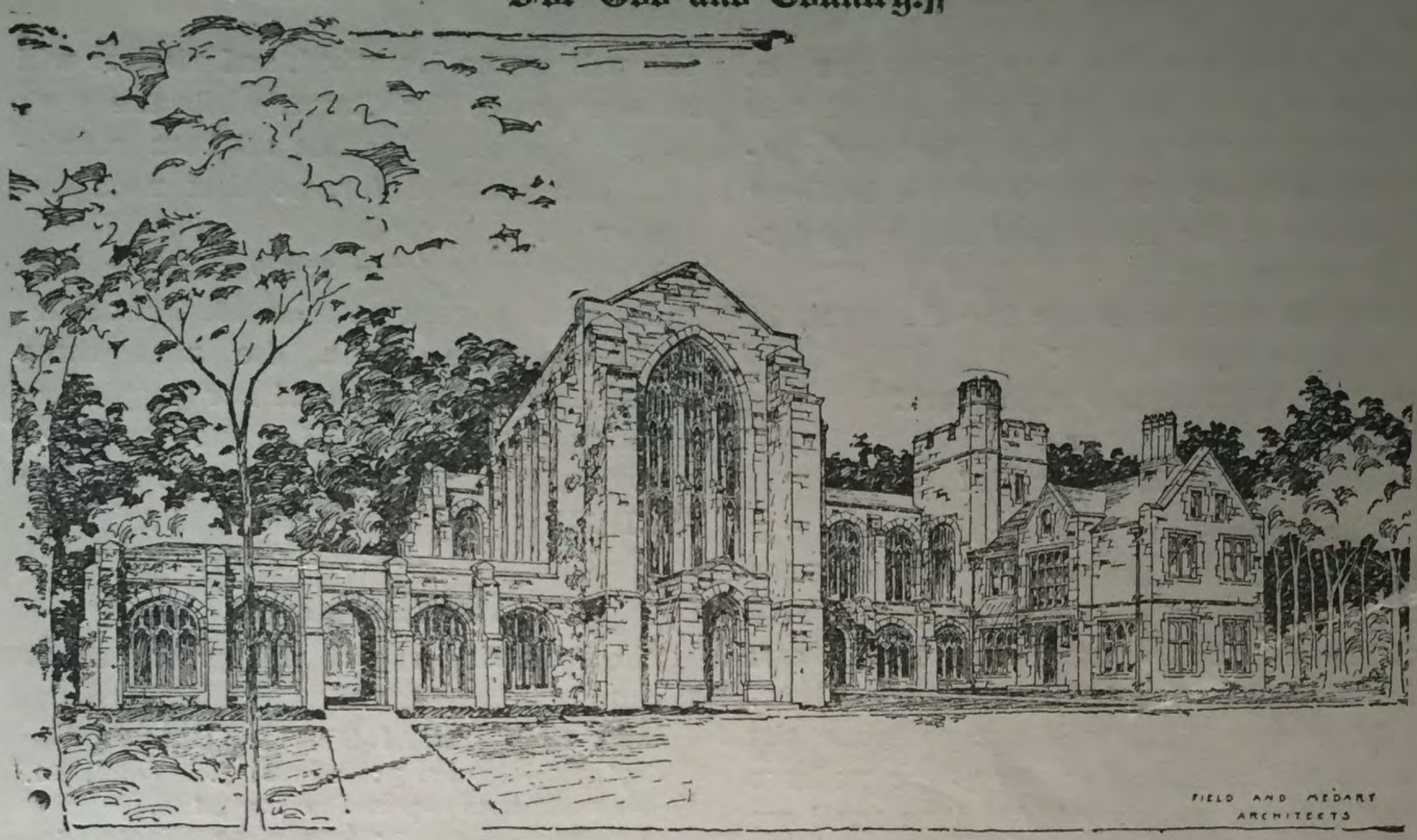


Cloister of the Colonies. Washington Memorial Chapel. Patriots' Hall. Tower and Rectory or Library

"No spot on earth—not the plains of Marathon, nor the passes of Sempach, nor the place of the Bastile, nor the dykes of Holland, nor the moors of England—is so sacred in the history of the struggle for human liberty as Valley Forge."

—CYRUS TOWNSEND BRADY.


# The Washington Chapel Chronicle

## Valley Forge.

A RECORD OF RELIGION AND PATRIOTISM.

**PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE WASHINGTON CHAPEL GUILD.**

MISS EMMA W. CRAWFORD, Editor. MRS. ROBERT WOOD, Business Manager

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## Walls.

Very few of the visitors to Valley Forge can imagine from the present state of the Washington Memorial Chapel the purpose of the builders. For them there is nothing of the vision of beauty and dignity that inspires those who are giving their efforts to make real what their minds alone can behold. For most people the clustered columns end where the rough boards rest, and the walls' whole purpose is to support a flimsy structure of wood and paper.

Nothing has been done in constructive work on the Chapel since 1909 when Mrs. Alan Wood, Jr., gave the Washington-Wood Pulpit, lectern and perclose. To accept this generous gift it was necessary to put in the foundations of the choir and sanctuary and to build a temporary chancel on these foundations. This beautiful memorial and the work demanded by it were a sign of progress in which all rejoiced. But for two years no stone has been laid toward the completion of the Chapel.

Visitors express surprise that no progress has been made. Progress has been made, for we have now about $5,000 for

walls. The question now before us is, What is best use we can make of this money? Lying at interest it is slowly increasing itself. This is a simple business proposition for the vestry and congregation to consider.

Which will be better for the work in which we are engaged?

$5,000 lying at interest?

or

$5,000 in walls?

The income on $5,000 at 3 per cent. will be $150 a year, but the income from $5,000 spent for walls will be a far greater rate of interest on the part of congregation and friends, and a much larger money return.

Of course $5,000 will not complete the walls of the nave. For some time we have felt that no work could be done until we were ready to carry the walls to their full height. But recently Mr. Milton B. Medary, Jr., the architect of the Chapel, has completed the plans for the entire chapel. In making a new study of the Chapel and its surroundings it was found necessary to increase the height of the walls. In doing this a change was made in the windows, by which they are to be divided into upper and lower sections. This makes a new place to which the work might be carried and at which it might be stopped, if necessary. Of course it would be better to carry the walls up to the full height, but unfortunately sufficient enthusiasm to do this has not been generated in those who have the ability to give largely.

The new plans will permit us to add about ten feet to the height of the walls as they now stand, and this addition will consist of window openings with the deep mouldings and tracery which make the Cloister so beautiful. We may even set some of the memorial windows in these openings. At any rate we will add to the dignity of the present building, give signs of life and create enthusiasm by progress by building this summer.

This work will not interfere with the use of the Chapel. The beautiful memorials will not be disturbed, and visitors will have access to the Chapel while the work is in progress. This has all been considered and planned for, so that need not hinder us.

We ought to have $2000 additional to carry on this work without debt, but surely we can raise this in the next three months. Already some of our people are working for WALLS. Let us make a united effort. What will you do for the WALLS?

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## Parochial Report.

The following report was presented to Bishop Mackay-Smith:

PAROCHIAL STATISTICS.

Baptisms—Adults, 3; infants, 7. Total, 10. Whole number of baptized persons, 140.

Confirmed—Male, 7; female, 12. Total, 19.

Communicants—Added, new, 19; by transfer, 13. Total, 32. Removed, by death, 1; by revision, 1; by transfer, 1. Total, 3. Present number, 94.

Burials—5.

Public Services—Sundays, 119; other days, 21. Total, 140.

Holy Communion—14.

Children Catechized—Times, 9.

Mission Stations (statistics included in this report)—1.

Sunday School and Bible Classes—Officers and teachers, 12; scholars, 90. Total membership, 102.

Other Parish Agencies—Officers and workers, 12; members, 40. Total, 52.

Church—1; sittings, 125; parish and school buildings, 1; rectory, none; cemetery, 1; salary of rector per annum, $1,500; of which from convocation or sustentation, $675; arrears of salary, none; total number of free sittings, all.

RECEIPTS.

| | |
|---|---|
| Envelope offerings | $889 33 |
| Convocation | 675 00 |
| Offerings for purposes outside parish | 23 03 |
| Donations | 6,723 19 |
| Income from investments | 14 82 |
| Sunday school | 148 87 |
| Received for endowment fund | 801 00 |
| From all other sources | 216 26 |
| Total receipts | $9,491 50 |
| May 1, 1910 | $1,334 73 |
| May 1, 1911 | 219 47 |
| May 1, 1911. Amount in 125th anniversary fund for walls | 3,003 40 |
| May 1, 1911. Amount in building fund | 1,521 43 |

## EXPENDITURES.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Parochial:** | |
| Current expenses (including all salaries, fuel, light, ordinary repairs, etc.) | $1,351 70 |
| Improvements | 2,279 40 |
| Payment of debts | 1,400 00 |
| Added to endowment fund | 815 82 |
| All other parochial expenditures | 94 46 |
| Total parochial | $5,941 38 |
| **Diocesan:** | |
| Missions, Convocation | $25 00 |
| Deaf | 2 86 |
| All other diocesan objects | 23 64 |
| Total diocesan | $51 50 |
| **Extra diocesan:** | |
| Missions—Sunday school offering | $85 25 |
| General, parish offering | 3 80 |
| Total extra diocesan | $89 05 |
| Total expenditures, all objects | $6,081 93 |

## FINANCIAL CONDITION.

| | |
|---|---|
| Estimated aggregate value of parish property, real and personal | $40,000 00 |
| **Encumbrances:** | |
| On church edifice | None |
| On other buildings and lands used for parish purposes | 2,500 00 |
| Other indebtedness | 2,000 00 |
| **Endowment Fund.** | |
| For support of parish | 2,628 12 |
| For support of museum | 565 82 |
| For support of library | 150 00 |

Within eight years from the time the first service was held at Valley Forge the Washington Memorial Chapel was organized as an independent parish. Application was made to the Bishop August 11, 1910, and canonical consent was given October 7. The congregation adopted a charter and elected a Vestry October 20. At the first meeting of the Vestry, November 9, the Rev. W. Herbert Burk, founder of the Mission, was elected rector and entered upon his duties January 16, 1911. The parish was incorporated January 12.

During the past year the constructive work included part of the foundation of the Patriots' Hall and the installation of a complete water system. The memorials included the Washington Door, presented by Colonial Chapter D. A. R., and the following Pews of the Patriots: the Presidents' Pew, given by Mr. William H. Pearson; the Navy Pew, given by Liberty Bell Chapter, D. A. R.; the Delaware County Pew, given by the Chapter; the Col. John Nixon Pew, given by Mrs. Charles Custis Harrison; the Washington-Lovell Pew, given by Miss Frances B. Lovell, and the Captain John Douglas Pew, given by Mrs. William H. Bennett.

The Building Fund was largely increased by the appropriation of $2,000 from the George C. Thomas Fund and the Advent Offering of the Sunday schools of the Diocese, which amounted to $1,529.27. The Endowment Fund of the Washington Memorial Library has been established and the endowment funds for the support of the parish and of the Valley Forge Museum have been increased. A tract of twenty acres has been secured for a cemetery, and work has been begun on the Defenders' Gate, which is to be erected at the entrance.

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## Tea Room Schedule.

1911.

April 22.—Mrs. Charles Walker, Mrs. Thomas Dobson, Mrs. Thomas Hammer.

April 29.—Mrs. Colket Wilson, Miss Emma Crawford, Miss Helen Wilson.

May 6.—Mrs. Colket Walker, Mrs. Clayland Walker, Mrs. Athalia Kendall.

May 13.—Mrs. Hoisington, Miss Cutler, Miss Lund.

May 20.—Mrs. Hibbs, Miss Hibbs, Miss Stroud.

May 27.—Mrs. Pechin, Mrs. Andrews, Miss Pechin.

June 3.—Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. Summerill, Mrs. Tyson.

June 10.—Mrs. Robert Wood, Mrs. Bean, Miss F. Lund.

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Delaware County Chapter, D. A. R., has decided to make its pew a memorial of John Morton, Signer of the Declaration of Independence. The dedication will take place on Evacuation Day, Sunday, June 18, at 3.30 o'clock.

## Washington Memorial Chapel,
### Valley Forge, Pa.

THE REV. W. HERBERT BURK, B. D.
RECTOR

Port Kennedy, Telephone 40.

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**Sundays.**

10.45 A. M. Service and Sermon.

2.30 P. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.

3.45 P. M. Service and Sermon.

Holy Communion, First Sunday.

At Stewart Fund Hall, King-of-Prussia.

9 A. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.

7.30 P. M. Service and Sermon.

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## Calendar.

JUNE.

17. 2 P. M. Dedication of the Monument to the Unknown Dead.
18. First Sunday after Trinity.
    Evacuation Day.
    3.30 P. M. Dedication of the John Morton Pew.
19. Evacuation Day.
24. Nativity of St. John the Baptist.
25. Second Sunday after Trinity.
29. St. Peter, the Apostle.

JULY.

2. Third Sunday after Trinity.
    3.45 P. M. Open Air Services in the Cloister and Grove.
4. Independence Day.
    4 P. M. Patriotic Service.
5. 2.30 P. M. Meeting of the Guild.
9. Fourth Sunday after Trinity.
13. Sunday School Picnic.

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MARRIAGE.

May 24. David F. Templeton, Jr., and Mary Elizabeth Miller.

BURIALS.

May 20. Anna M. Nyce.

May 31. William Henry Emery.

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The Communion silver presented by Miss Lundy was used for the first time in the celebration of the Holy Communion on Ascension Day, May 25.

## Reunion at St. James' Church, Perkiomen.

The Norristown Herald gave the following account of the tenth annual reunion of the descendants of the early members of St. James' Church, Perkiomen, held June 3:

The tenth reunion of the descendants of the early members of St. James' P. E. Church, of Perkiomen, was held in the venerable St. James Episcopal Church, Evansburg, Saturday. There was an excellent attendance and the occasion was unusually interesting. Morning services were conducted by the Rev. F. S. Ballentine at 11 o'clock. The address was made by Rev. W. Herbert Burk, Dean of the Convocation of Norristown, and was most appropriate for the occasion. The music was led by choristers from St. John's Church, Norristown, and Miss Helen Moyer, of Norristown, presided at the organ.

The ladies of the parish served a bountiful lunch and gave their guests a warm welcome which added greatly to the pleasure of the day.

The business meeting convened at 2 o'clock p. m. The death was announced of an active member of the Executive Committee, Mr. Edward Bowman Leaf, of Philadelphia. Mr. J. M. Vanderslice was re-elected president, and Miss Anne R. Shannon, secretary and treasurer.

Dr. John W. Jordan, librarian of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, made an interesting address. He was followed by Mr. Righter Fisher and Mr. Charles W. Boger, of the Philadelphia Bar; Rev. Carl Grammar, of St. Stephen's Church, Philadelphia; Rev. Mr. Hartshorne, of Phoenixville, and Major John W. Reynolds, of Erie. Hon. Samuel W. Pennypacker concluded the speech-making of the afternoon and told many things concerning the conditions of the parish today, both interesting and encouraging.

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Address of Dr. John W. Jordan, at the St. James' Church reunion:

I doubt whether there is any section of

our good old Commonwealth which is so rich in Colonial and Revolutionary history as that composed within the bounds of the present county of Montgomery. Its wooded hills and green, well watered valleys, attracted a class of settlers of a high class of intelligence, whose moral and religious, as well as social and political condition, has left its impress even to our day. Much hard work had to be performed in the clearing of ground, the erection of mills and the construction of roads. Fortunate was he who could hail his next neighbor within a reasonable distance or reach the nearest mill in a short journey. They lived in primitive simplicity in their unadorned log cabins, and were perhaps happier than many of their descendants in their stately mansions. If they had not as many comforts and luxuries, neither had they as many real or imaginary wants. Many of them oppressed and down-trodden in the old country, left their homes to seek liberty, religious and political, in the land of Penn. The full consciousness of being free from all political oppression and every ecclesiastical restraint, of having entire liberty to maintain and extend as far as they pleased their own religious tenets and views, sweetened their toil and seemed to lessen all their labor. It is not my intention, nor will time permit me, to point out all the different companies of Welsh, English, German, and Scotch-Irish which settled within the confines of this country. This has been admirably done by your Historical Society and local historians. However, the first impulse, the first invitation, came from Penn himself. The Swedes were your pioneer settlers, and they were followed by the English Churchman, the Welsh Quaker, the German sectarian, and the aggressive Scotch-Irish. A not uninteresting phase of your history is the religious movement commenced a century and three-quarters ago, particularly after the advent of the Germans, perhaps to some a subject dry as the bones that the seer of old saw in the Valley of Vision.

As one traverses your county he constantly meets with the familiar names of early settlers, and buildings around which cluster the remembrance of ye olden time. Not long ago I joined a pilgrimage of your Historical Society to a section of the county in which this religious movement became very active, and where, in 1734, was organized "The Associated Brethren of Skippack"; also the plantation of that pious laymen, Henry Antes, in whose house in 1745 was established a boy's boarding school, the first in the Province (among the scholars being a nephew of Benjamin Franklin); followed part of the route of Washington's army in its movements after the defeat at the Brandywine, and visited the cemeteries of Lutheran and Reformed churches, in which rest the remains of many a Continental soldier.

This is my first visit to St. James' parish, and as I happen to be the custodian for the Historical Society of Pennsylvania of your Vestry Book, I feel that it is not only a pleasure, but a duty, to participate with you in this celebration. I am very glad indeed that this ancient record is in our care, preserved against fire and loss, and I wish, too, that other old congregations would follow your example.

The history of St. James Parish is too familiar to you, for me to go over today; it has been developed by your Rectors and historians. As I strolled through the cemetery and read the inscriptions on the grave stones, they recalled many familiar names prominent in the history of this parish and the county. To be a little reminiscent, the name of Shannon, that of a well-known physician of Schuylkill county, with whom I was personally acquainted, the Lanes, ancestors of my friend, Gov. Pennypacker, the Evans, Pawling, Moore and others. As I have already stated, Montgomery county is very rich in Revolutionary history. Although

it was the scene of only one notable battle, Whitemarsh, and a number of skirmishes, it was dotted al lover with the camps of the Continental army for a period of eight months; Pottsgrove, Pennypacker's Mills, Towamencin, Wentz's, Whitpain, Whitemarsh, Swede's Ford, Guelph Mill, are all familiar names, but greater than all—Valley Forge. It was there that Washington organized his new army, and on June 19, 1778, started through Montgomery and Bucks counties to intercept the retreating British, whom he had forced to evacuate Philadelphia, an epoch in our history which gave assurances in the ultimate success of our cause.

While St. James parish escaped much of the burde ns incident to the encampment of an army, still the Light Horse patrols and foragers from Valley Forge were frequent visitors. I have been informed, however, that after the battle of Germantown, some of the wounded were quartered in your old church building. Here they must have been treated by the surgeons for over a month, because on Nov. 15, 1777, in General Orders, Washington directed that all the sick and wounded in this vicinity should be transferred to the Buckingham Meeting House, in Bucks county. On Christmas Day, snow fell to the depth of four inches, and the next day it cleared off cold. Two weeks later Washington wrote to Gen. Robert Howe that, "Military operations seem to be at an end for the Winter." The cold weather closed the navigation of the Delaware, and the British army in Philadelphia began to feel the lack of supplies. It was then that Howe organized strong foraging parties, one of which penetrated as far as the Guelph Mill, one of the outposts of our army, in command of Col. Aaron Burr, but were driven back leaving two killed and one wounded on the field. This was the nearest approach to Valley Forge by any British force during the encampment there.

Camp near Bartholomews, 22d Dec 1777

Dear Sir

General Washington has requested me to write to Council that the Same number of Militia may be kept up throughout the Winter as are at present in the field, or as thro' the Cource of the Campaign. Of these with me I look for a return this evening but Shall not detain the Express for it, I take the number to be about Sixteen hundred, and with Genl Potter yet in Chester County, four or five hundred—of these a considerable number will be free in the beginning of January.

I mak no doubt but that my last letters will fully Suggest to the Legislature of this State, altho' not immediately address'd to the Representative body, as will the natural observation of both branches of Government, the much exposed Situation of the Eastern parts of the State, but in a particular manner, the extensive Country on this Side the Scuylkill. The Winter possition of the Continental Army at what is called the Forge or Valley Hill, will we hope chiefly preserve the County of Chester with Several Other good effects, whilst the attempt for the defence of the Counties of Philadelphia & Bucks appears to remain chiefly or rather wholly with the militia of the State; an effort as arduous as it is laubible, and if attended with only a partial degree of Success, will be all that that the most Sanguine reason can expect.

The Winter Arrangement on this Side Scuylkill the General has thought proper (at the same time adding his own instructions) to commit to me. This I have digested in the best manner I can which hath met with his Excellencys approbation. The essential parts or outlines whereof are none other than taking a variable Station on every leading Road betwixt Scuylkill and Delaware of which I find there are to the number of Nine, that may be called Capitol Roads—the general Service on each can only be to compete with Smaller partys of the Enemy, prevent Such from proceeding in-

to the Country & intercept the business of Marketing or any other intercourse of the disaffected with the Enemy as far as circumstances will admit. Standing Picquets must be placed on every road, and Patroles aided by a few light Horse to preced as near the Enemy as may be reasonable. This mode will necessarily throw the troops into detachments, in that way they must be employed if employed to any good purpose at all. This method will be subject to its inconveniencies particularly feeding the Men, Changing the Battalions when some are free, delivery of Arms &c. but in a choice of difficulties, we have nothing for it but the least. The general arrangement with particular instructions to the Commander on each Road is all that the Season will permit me to do. The various movements & lodgings, are already too hard for me and severer weather must be at hand. General Potter says he can by no means tarry the Winter And Some Head these people must certainly have & very Suddenly else all will go to confusion. I had, therefore, flattered my Self that from my letter by Doctor Duffield, a new appointment wou'd have been made, and the person ready for duty—a notice of this Sort I hope Soon to be favour'd with & think it already on the road.

Having the Honr to be
Your Excellencies
Most humbl Servt
John Armstrong

## The Washington Memorial Cemetery.

The contract for the upper road and that leading to the second road was given to Mr. J. H. Dawson. Mr. Dawson was also given the contract for the concrete and stone bridge, which will be built over the ravine below the Gate. Work was begun on the road on the 25th of May. The road has been cut through to the circle below the Chapel and will soon be ready for use. Already some of the beauties of the cemetery are being revealed, and those who have gone over the road have been delighted at the varied scenery opened to view.

The sale of lots is most gratifying to all interested. To date four lots at $200 each have been sold and one at $100. There have been many inquiries, and several have declared their intention to purchase lots. Of course those who purchase first will secure the choicest lots in the section now being laid out. These are in one of the most desirable parts of the cemetery, and on the plot formed by the intersection of the roads a public monument will some day be erected.

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The Lawn Fete and Bazaar given by Miss Mary Supplee Stephens and her girls on the lawn of the rectory on May 13 was a great success. The girls had several energetic helpers, and the articles they had made found a ready sale. The result was the completion of the Stereopticon Fund of both Sunday schools, over seventy dollars being made. The stereopticons will be purchased as soon as electric light is introduced at Stewart Fund Hall and the Chapel. The company promises current in the near future.

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## The Defenders' Gate.

Work on the Defenders' Gate has been carried on with numerous delays, due to a difficulty in securing material. In spite of all the hindrances the basement of the lodge has been built, and is now ready for the first floor joists. The first cut stone blocks of the Lincoln Gate will soon be in place, as all the rough work on the lodge side has been done. Mr. Wm. M. Sullivan, of Norristown, was given the contract for the Arch.

Unfortunately certain changes have been made in the plans to lessen the cost of the structure. As first planned the Gate was to be of fireproof construction throughout. The changes consist of the omission of iron casements, concrete floors and partitions, and the wire lathing. No changes will be made in the exterior of the struc-

ture, which has been so carefully designed.

The Penn Trust Co., of Norristown, will loan $8,000 for the payment of the mortgage on the cemetery and the erection of the Lodge, the loan to be secured for the present by additional security. This will be given by generous members of the Parish who have every confidence in the success of this work. We are confident that the debt will not long remain.

## A VALLEY FORGE ORDERLY BOOK.

**Printed by Courtesy of Its late Owner Mr. George Clifford Thomas.**

Head Quarters Valley Forge, Feb. 10, 1778.
Major General..... .....to-morrow.....Green
Brigadier. ..... .....Varnum
Field officers.....Lt. Colo. Gray, Major Packer
Brigade Major.....McGregor

The Regimental Pay Masters who have not received the Pay of their respective Regts for the month of November last to call on the Pay Master General to-morrow morning to receive the same. The meeting of the General officers mentioned in the order the 8th Instant is pospon'd til to-morrow morning 10 o'Clock when it is desired they will attend at the place there mentioned.

Mr. Joseph Ogden is appointed clerke of the Market and is to be respected accordingly.

The Commissary General will issue a gill of rum or Whiskey per man to-morrow.

In case any Field Officer ordered on duty should not be able to attend he will notify the Brigade Major (of the Brigade to which he belongs) thereof immediately who is to appoint another of the same Brigade in his steade; but if there be no other fit for duty to release him. notice thereof to be given to the Adj. General as soon as possible that another may be appointed in his room.

Head Quarters Valley Forge, Feb'y 11th.
Major General.....to-morrow..... ...Lord Sterling
Brigadier.....Huntington
Field officers.....Lt. Colo. Buford, Major Vernon
Brigade Major.....Lerned

A representation having been inside try the Captains in the Pennsylvania line against the Promotion of Michael Bryon, Esqr. to the Majority of a Regiment as Irregular he is suspended from doing duty in that rank, til the matter can be adjusted by a proper board of officers.

At the same Court Martial Lt. Whiteby Col. Sprout was President February 9th, Captain Israel Davis, of Colo. Wiggleworth's Regiment Tryd for fraudulently detaining two months pay drawn by him belonging to Gyles Tibbet a soldier to the great damage of said soldier. 2ndly, for detaining a sum of money about the value of 60 pounds Massachusetts currency, the property of 5 soldiers being the money due to them for hire; from the Town of Nubery acquitted of the 1st part of the charge and found Guilty of the 2nd, being a breach of the 4th article, 12th section of the articles of war and sentenced to be cashiered and to refund the money to Thos. Clarke and Wm. Clarke each 15£. to H. Hutchings, Reuben Canady and Benja. Fletcher each 10£ of the aforesaid Currency; and that his Pay be stopped to make good the sums

The Commander in Chief approves the sentence and orders it to take place immediately.

Head Quarters Valley Forge, Feb'ry 12th, 1778.
Major General.....tomorrow.....Baron DeKalb
Brigadier General.....Paterson
Field Officers.....Lt. Colo. Ruy, Major Cabbal
Brigade Major.....Paterson

At a General Court Martial whereof Colo. Wigglesworth was President February 6th 1778 Captain Sane Tryd upon appeal to a General Court Martial, for acting in a cowardly manner when sent on a scouting Party the 12th of December last in ordering his men to retreate when he had considerable advantage over the enemy, again found Guilty of the charge being a breach of the 13th article 13th Section of the articles of war and sentenced to be discharged the service.